

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 030481/0158

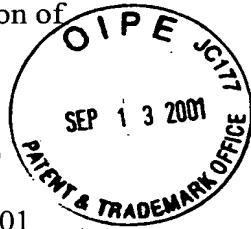
In re Patent Application of

Sauli TULKKI et al.

Serial No. 09/771,703

Filed: January 30, 2001

For: TRIGGERED FLOW MEASUREMENT



Group Art Unit: 2855

Examiner: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application on the merits, please amend the application as follows.

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Please substitute the formal figures 1-9 attached to the Request for Approval of Drawings Changes filed concurrently herewith for the informal figures 1-8 and the figure to the appendix.

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1), please amend the specification by adding the following Abstract. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

When a bolus dose of cold saline is injected into a catheter where a wire, carrying a sensor unit and electrical leads for signal transmission, is located, the lead resistance is affected by the cold saline thereby altering the resistivity. However, by countering this effect and measuring the change needed to affect this countermeasure, a resistance variation curve can be generated. An accurate starting point for the determination of a transit time can be derived from the curve. Using conventional flow measurement